



Community Appearance Commission

Minutes

September 7, 2005

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order Wednesday, September 7, 2005 at 4 p.m. by Barbara Perry, Chair, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and absent:

Present: Cindee Bridges, Greta Connor, Suzette Davis, Judy Kandl, Barbara Lawther, Michael Lippard, Chad Morgan, Barbara Perry, Sara Robinson, Bill Safrit, and Johnny Safrit

Absent: None

Staff: Lynn Raker and Diana Moghrabi

Barbara Perry, Chair, called the meeting to order. The minutes of the August 3 meeting were approved with one correction to the attendance. The financial statement was accepted as submitted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art in Public Places

- *HAT (History and Art Trail)*. Ray Moose has submitted the logos for the markers and the sample for the first one was shown to the CAC. The first installation will be located near 106 S. Main Street.
- The Gateway Art Installation Project Committee is planning a previously mentioned luncheon October 10 at Park Avenue Community Center. Invitations are now going out. The caterer has been selected.
- One hundred ten applications have been received from artists for the Gateway Art Installation Project, and that process has been closed to any more applications.
- Recommendations for the selection committee have been submitted to Mayor Kluttz for approval. The names on this list include artists and historians who are not connected to this commission or committee.

- *Mosaic.* Mr. Robert Crum plans to complete the Depot Street Mosaic before the October 10 luncheon. Since the Robertson Foundation contributed \$10,000 toward this project, it will be nice for them to see the completed project on the day of their meeting. Ideas to raise the remaining balance of \$10,000 are requested.

Neighborhoods & Education Committee

The following items were discussed:

- 1. Update on front-yard parking:** Lynn shared sections that address front-yard parking from the latest draft of the *Chapter 10 Parking* of the proposed *Land Development Ordinance* (LDO).

Section 10.2 A limits front yard parking in the urban residential districts to prepared surfaces (i.e. paved driveways) only. *Section 10.2 I* states: "Parking for single family residences shall be on prepared (paved) surfaces only. Prepared surfaces include concrete, asphalt, brick, gravel, or other similar materials. No more than 50% of the front yard of a single-family house may be used for motor vehicle parking." And *Section 10.2 M* states: "Parking for Recreational Vehicles and Boats shall be restricted to the rear and side yards of residential buildings."

The committee agreed that the maximum allowed area for front-yard parking surface should be 25% rather than 50%. Lynn will share that recommendation with the consultant and staff.

- 2. The Fall Spruce-up** sponsored by the CAC and the Public Services Department will be September 24 (CAC spruce-up day) with trash, tire and appliance collection during the week of September 26-30. Public Services takes care of the water bill insert and other advertisements related to the fall event and CAC handles advertisement for the Spring Spruce-up. Neighborhood and civic groups may get large bags and gloves for clean-up efforts from the Public Services Department.

Bill Safrit has been approached by citizens desiring inclusion of building materials during the Fall Spruce-Up. Chad Morgan added that it was discouraging to spend a lot of time and money on renovations, then not be able to rid the debris; not everyone has the means to remove the material that is being discarded. Barbara Perry agreed that this is worth addressing.

Lynn Raker will check with Public Services to see if anything can be done to expand the pick up.

3. Neighborhood entrance signs: Lynn shared the conceptual plan for the realigned of the intersection into Jersey City at Mocksville Ave., West Cemetery St. and North Caldwell St. It had to be designed to accommodate 18-wheelers. There will be an opportunity to place in a proposed planted area an entrance sign with limited information on the history of the neighborhood. The drainage design for the intersection is currently near completion, and the project should go out to bid within a couple of months.

The entrance into Park Avenue, off Long Street, will be addressed as part of a neighborhood planning effort focused on the general improvement of conditions around that intersection. City Manager Dave Treme plans to assemble a small planning group to examine the current problem and possible solutions.

The Fairview Heights sign will be next.

4. Neighborhood leaders meeting: November 17 at 4 p.m. the next neighborhood leaders meeting will take place at One Water Street. Lynn Raker will draft a letter to send to the leaders reminding them of the Fall Spruce-up and providing an update on the front-yard parking issue.

The issue of parking boats on front lawns will go to the Planning Board for the consideration of a text amendment prohibiting this in our city's code.

Barbara Perry pointed out that, even if this does enter into the city's code, the enforcement of the code seems to be a challenge. She looks forward to David Phillips addressing code enforcement as a speaker at the next CAC meeting.

Barbara Lawther mentioned a POD in Eagle Heights, first street to the right, which appears to be in violation of the code.

September 28 at 4 p.m. the Neighborhoods and Education will meet in the first floor conference room.

Landscaping

- *Yard of the Month.* The committee had a good meeting and the report is as follows:
Policies for selection of Landscape of the Month (LOM): Residential and commercial properties are eligible for selection no more than once every five years unless there is a change of ownership. The selection of residential LOMs should be inclusive and should not be limited by location, size, or relative cost of the landscaping. Owner-installed projects shall be given consideration equal to professionally installed projects. Criteria for selection may include but is not limited to: the overall design of the landscape, the apparent level of work invested in its installation and upkeep, seasonal color, form and texture, and general maintenance of the landscape. The landscape should be clearly visible from the street and add to the overall property values of the neighborhood.

Notification procedures: Within one week from selection of a winner, a committee member (Barbara Lawther) will notify the owner by phone and request permission to install the sign. Staff will send a letter of congratulations to the owner with information on the biennial awards program.

Committee responsibilities:

Week one: At CAC meeting, committee chair will report to CAC on winners of past month and receive new nominations for residential and commercial LOM. Nominations should include complete address and name of owner/ resident if possible. Staff will complete information on spreadsheet.

Week two: Committee makes selection via email or phone conversations. Cindee may take digital pictures and E-Mail if time permits. Cindee E-Mails Lynn and Diana with final selection.

Barbara notifies resident and business owner of award and requests permission to install sign. Barbara E-Mails Cindee when permission has been granted. Cindee or Johnny installs sign.

Week four: Committee may meet over lunch (dutch) to discuss future nominations and other business, and to review draft of article on current winners for submittal to *Post*.

Program publicity and incentives for being selected: Announce program and criteria on Access 16. Contact *The Salisbury Post* about monthly notification. Investigate *Our State Magazine* for publicity on selected neighborhoods. Contact Bill Godley about offering a \$25 plant gift certificate to residential winners.

Maintaining the Landscape of the Month spreadsheet: The committee chair will communicate with city staff to maintain a record of this program. Staff will help provide information (property owners' names) when needed.

Landscape of the Month (LOM) Signs: Replace signs with easier to install metal signs of similar layout. Staff will check with Dean Harwood Sign Co. for styles and prices. Schedule sign replacement during winter months when LOM program is dormant.

- Commercial Nomination for September—Nobles & Kelsey Funeral home on Fisher St.
- Residential Nomination for September—809 Park Avenue
- Cindee would also like to nominate 713 Park Avenue, but it is so close to the 809 address
- Residential Nomination for October—701 N Fulton Street
- Residential Nomination for October—412 E Horah Street

The Landscape Committee will meet September 27 at noon in the first floor conference room.

Municipal Service District (MSD) and Innes Street Improvement Grants (ISG)**MSD**

APPLICANT	ADDRESS	APP. DATE	PROJECT AMT.	ELIGIBLE	GRANT AMT.
Hap's Grill Gregg Culp	116 1/2 N. Main St.	5/31/2005	\$ 2,100	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050
Stitchin' Post Gifts Pam Hylton Coffield	104 S. Main St.	7/1/2005	\$ 8,600	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Spenganelli's Coffee House Kay H. Earnhardt	329 N. Main St.	7/25/2005	\$ 1,145	\$ 573	
Former Beggar's Bazaar Downtown Salisbury, Inc.	102 S. Main St.	8/15/2005	\$ 14,000	\$ 2,500	
Oak Grove/ Freedman's Cem. City of Salisbury	200 block W. Liberty	8/12/2005	\$ 224,566		\$ 5,000
Total Project Amounts			\$ 248,311.00		
Appropriation 7/01/05			\$ 22,000.00		
Requested funds					
Awarded funds (pending approval)			\$ 7,500.00		
Funds Remaining			\$ 14,500.00		
New Requested funds					
			remaining	\$ 14,500.00	

INNES ST GRANTS

APPLICANT	ADDRESS	APP. DATE	PROJECT AMT.	GRANT AMT.
Former Beggar's Bazaar Downtown Salisbury, Inc.	102 S. Main St.	8/15/2005	\$ 14,000	\$ 5,000
Oak Grove/ Freedman's Cem. City of Salisbury	200 block W. Liberty	8/12/2005	\$ 224,566	\$ 5,000
Total Project Amounts			\$ 238,566.00	
Appropriation 7/01/05			\$ 25,000.00	
Requested funds				
Awarded funds (pending approval)			\$ 10,000.00	
Funds Remaining			\$ 15,000.00	
New Requested funds				
			remaining	\$ 15,000.00

Michael Lippard reported that he and Lynn Raker met with the owners of Spenganelli's Coffee House to work on a plan to improve the exterior of the business. The plan includes an awning and decorative planters. They will need to get their certificate of appropriateness.

The building across Kerr Street from Spenzanelli's is deteriorating rapidly. This is cause for concern.

Catreliia Hunter and the Water Works Visual Art Center have raised a considerable amount of money for the Freedmen's Cemetery. The City is now overseeing the project. Decorative paving in the street intersection is the last phase to be completed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Plans for the awards banquet will begin after October 10, and is tentatively set for January or early February (depending on the Mayor's calendar).

OLD BUSINESS

Chad Morgan has received negative response about the pole displays (banners) that Downtown Salisbury, Inc. put up in the four quadrants of downtown. There was overall concern about DSI not presenting their plans to the Community Appearance Commission.

Downtown Salisbury, Inc. is meeting at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 20, at the Plaza to discuss Christmas lights and decorations. Barbara Perry and Chad Morgan will attend this meeting.

"Rebecca at the Well" is broken again; CAC members have received calls from the public voicing their frustration. The fountain at the Gateway Bridge is broken more than it operates. The CAC hopes that it can be fixed by October 10.

There was a discussion about the brightness of the lights on the Gateway Bridge; no action was taken.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned.

DM